

For some time now, I have been following the FCC's decision to deregulate broadcast companies and allow consolidation of the media in the hands of fewer companies. My concerns have become reality. Sinclair Broadcasting has decided to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary just days before the election. This is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation, and a vindication of my concerns.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. There is a total lack of fair and balanced programming.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.